

Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for commercialization of intellectual property (IP), the method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a comprehensive, centralized network of members, including one or more service provider members, each service provider member having expertise in at least one facet of IP commercialization;

(b) offering an interested party access to the network; and

(c) service provider members of the network providing services to the interested party, the services selected from a group consisting of: prior art search services; legal services; financial services; prototyping services; model making services; manufacturing; testing services; industrial design services; commercial art services; marketing services; IP valuation services for assigning tangible value to IP assets; IP audit services; services that provide R&D project analysis, evaluation, or both; insurance services, security analysis services; and management consulting services.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the interested party has an interest in receiving information, data, or a combination thereof regarding at least one aspect of IP and the method further comprises the steps of:

(d) collecting data relating to at least said one aspect of IP; and

(e) disseminating said data to at least said interested party.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the information comprises ranking information identifying, classifying, comparing, ranking and evaluating one or more IP assets, entities that own or control IP, or sources of IP, and the method further comprises compiling said ranking information.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 further comprising using said ranking information to recognize innovation by presenting awards to top ranked entities.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the interested party is also a member of the network.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the members of the comprehensive network comprise inventors, government entities, research and development (R&D) and manufacturing entities, IP specialists, providers of business services, and IP marketplace providers.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the services provided by service provider members of the network further comprise ~~comprise one or more services in the group consisting of: prior art search services; legal services; financial services; prototyping services; model making services; manufacturing; testing services; industrial design services; commercial art services; marketing services; IP valuation services for assigning tangible value to IP assets; IP audit services; services that provide R&D project analysis, evaluation, or both; insurance services; security analysis services; and management consulting services;~~

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the method further comprises creating a financial market for IP assets where IP assets, or securities based upon IP assets, can be bought and sold.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the method further comprises providing a certification program for certifying IP analysts qualified to provide tangible valuation of IP assets.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the method further comprises providing an educational program comprising education in accounting, financial, legal, and actuarial skills for educating individuals how to provide tangible valuation of IP assets.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the method comprises providing a trade show in which a plurality of the service providers exhibit information to others about the services offered by the service providers.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the facet of IP commercialization in which each member has expertise corresponds to a step in a natural life cycle of an IP asset, the trade show having a physical layout organized with the service providers grouped together according to step in the IP asset life cycle.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the service providers are grouped into legal service providers, business service providers, pre-market service providers, commercialization service providers, and after-market service providers.

14. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the trade show includes a dedicated marketplace for buying, selling, auctioning, and bidding on IP assets.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for commercialization of intellectual property (IP), the method comprising the step of providing a trade show in which a comprehensive network of service providers exhibit information to others, each service provider having expertise corresponding to at least one step in a natural life cycle of an IP asset, services provided by the service providers selected from a group consisting of: prior art search services; legal services; financial services; prototyping services; model making services; manufacturing; testing services; industrial design services; commercial art services; marketing services; IP audit services; services that provide R&D project analysis, evaluation, or both; insurance services, security analysis services; and management consulting services, in which the service providers are grouped in a physical layout at the trade show by association with a corresponding step in the IP asset life cycle.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the service providers are grouped into legal service providers, business service providers, pre-market service providers, commercialization service providers, and after-market service providers

17. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the trade show ~~includes further~~ comprises a dedicated marketplace for buying, selling, auctioning, and bidding on IP assets.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the access to the network is provided by means of a global computer network or by telephone.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the access ~~further~~ comprises:

(b1) providing a dedicated site on the global computer network accessible by the interested party;

(b2) providing computerized means for digitally receiving a request for information about one or more service provider members from the interested party;

(b3) providing a database of records relating to the service provider members searchable by the computerized means in response to the request for information; and

(b3) providing the requested information to the interested party.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein step (b2) comprises receiving characterizing information pertaining to the interested party, and matching a service provider member to the interested party based upon the characterizing information.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the characterizing information comprises information selected from the group consisting of: type of IP about which the interested party desires the information, subject area of the IP, and the geographic region of the interested party.

22. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the services provided by the service providers include IP valuation services for assigning tangible value to IP assets.